

Cont'd
D1

said outer edges of the sidebars being recessed from the outer edges of the chip such that the frame is smaller than a corresponding dimension of the chip, so as to avoid formation of a fillet of chip attach material proximate to the outer edges of the chip when the chip is attached to the frame.

D2

12. (Amended) A lead frame for connecting and supporting an integrated circuit chip having an outer chip edge, comprising a frame including interconnected side bars having a uniform width defining a central aperture and an outer frame edge, said frame edge being disposed within the outer chip edge, thus having no shoulder, and therefore minimizing fillet formation, and having a contact surface for securing the chip thereto.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 7 in the paragraph beginning with "FIG. 5"

D3

FIG. 5 further illustrates an aperture traversing member 125. In this embodiment, this member serves to divide the aperture into two smaller apertures 126 and 127. Additional traversing members 125' (shown in dotted line) may be employed to further divide the apertures 126 and 127 into smaller areas.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

It is proposed to amend FIG. 5 by adding additional traversing bars 125' in dotted line.

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Office Action of August 27, 2002 in which the Examiner rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 112. In particular the Examiner objected to the term "a plurality of unitary sidebars" in claims 12-14. The amended claim 12 presented herein has been conformed to claim 1 and recites a plurality of having a uniform width. This feature has been